

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 MCT-01 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07
NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 /114 W
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P R 301646Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0278
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NY
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 11303

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IS, IT, VT
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN'S VISIT TO ITALY

REF: ROME 21062 (NOTAL)

1. MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EURIPE I (COMMON MARKET)
DIVISION (PADON) TOLD EMBOFF DECEMBER 30 THAT THE DAYAN
VISIT TO ITALY IS SCHEUDLED FOR JANUARY 1 TO 11. HE
DESCRIBED THE VISIT AS ROUTINE AND NOT LINKED TO ANY
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES. ITALY, LIKE FRANCE, HAS ALWAYS
POSED SPECIAL PROBLEMS FOR ISRAEL IN VIEW OF ITS
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GENERALLY MORE PRO-ARAB MEDITERRANEAN PERSPECTIVE
WHICH IT SEEKS TO IMPOSE ON THE OTHER COMMUNITY COUNTRIES.
THE DAYAN VISIT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO AND ITS COINCIDING WITH THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS
WITH EGYPT IS PURELY ACCIDENTAL. DAYAN IS ALSO
SCHEUULDE TO MEET WITH POPE PAUL AND VATICAN SECRETARY OF
STATE CARDINAL VILLOT, BUT NO FORMAL AGENDA HAS BEEN

FIXED REGARDING TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE VATICAN.

2. DAYAN WILL MEET IN ROME WITH PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI AND FOREIGN MINISTER FORLANI AND WILL BRIEF THEM ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS. HE WILL PLEAD FOR ITALIAN UNDERSTANDING OF ISRAEL'S PROBLEMS AND ASK AGAIN THAT ITALY AND THE EC NOT MAKE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS TAKING SIDES ON ISSUES WHILE THEY ARE BEING NEGOTIATED. OTHER TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE: A. EC TARIFFS FOR ISRAELI CITRUS PRODUCTS (ITALY HAS BEEN OPPOSING SCHEDULED TARIFF CONCESSIONS TO ISRAELI CITRUS ENTERING THE EC. ITALIAN INSISTENCE WOULD RAISE THE TARIFFS FOR ISRAELI PRODUCTS TO A HIGHER LEVEL ESPECIALLY IN THE UK AND IRELAND, WHICH ARE AMONG ISRAEL'S BIGGEST CITRUS CUSTOMERS); B. REVIEW OF ISRAELI-ITALIAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT; C. AIRPORT SECURITY AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON TERRORISTS; AND D. ITALIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS. DAYAN WILL ALSO MEET WITH LEADERS OF THE ITALIAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES.

3. AT THE VATICAN DAYAN MAY RAISE THE QUESTION OF ARCHBISHOP CAPUCCI, AND ASK WHY THE VATICAN HAS NOT LIVED UP TO THE AGREED CONDITIONS OF HIS RELEASE. REPORTEDLY THE VATICAN HAS NOT YET FORMALLY ASSIGNED CAPUCCI TO A LATIN AMERICAN DIOCESE BUT HAS SIMPLY SENT HIM "ON A MISSION" TO BRAZIL, NOR
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HAS CAPUCCI REMAINED SILENT ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE. HOWEVER, DAYAN WILL NOT PRESS THIS ISSUE, NOR ANY OTHER, AND WILL ONLY DISCUSS JERUSALEM OR THE ISSUE OF VATICAN RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL IF THE POPE OR CARDINAL VILLOT RAISE THEM.

4. COMMENT: PADON IN CONCLUDING SAID THAT ATMOSPHERICS OF ROME TALKS WOULD DEPEND LARGELY ON THE ITALIANS. OTHERWISE DAYAN WILL BE QUITE OUT-SPOKEN IN HIS CRITICISM OF ITALIAN MIDDLE EAST POLICY.
LEWIS

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